



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SHYU,DEVON

Examiner: Jason L Sherrill

Serial No: 09/842,392

Group Art Unit: 2622

Filed : 04/26/2001

5 For : **SCANNER CAPABLE OF ADJUSTING THE HEIGHT OF A  
PAPER COVER**

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington D.C. 20231

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10 Sir:

**REPLY**

The Examiner pointed out in the Office Action dated 03/29/2004 that claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by Lin et al (U.S Patent No. 5812285). However, the applicant couldn't  
15 agree on this. U.S Patent No. 5812285 is actually a prior art reference which has been cited in the specification of the present invention, and the applicant holds that the present invention is structurally different from the Lin's patent 285. The grounds are explained as follows:

It can be concluded from the claims that the structural  
20 characteristics of the present invention are as follows:

First, each locking hook on the paper cover has wing blocks 48 and 49 formed at both sides thereof.

Second, an elastic rib 31 is formed beside each of the mounting

hole of the housing and has a top end formed with a catch block 33, and the catch block extends into the mounting hole of the housing.

It can be found, the present invention is provided with an elastic rib at a position opposite to each of the opening of the mounting holes, and at the top end of the elastic rib is formed with a catch block. However, Lin doesn't disclose such equivalent structure.

On the other hand, the function and effect of the present invention are better than those of the Lin's patent 285.

The capturing members 7 in figure 3 disclosed by Lin may be misunderstood as elastic ribs of the present invention. However, it can be clearly seen from figure 4a and 4b of the patent 285 that when assembling the paper cover 1, the capturing members 7 will not impede the paper cover 1 from being assembled to the main body 2. (col. 2 line 45-65) However, refer to the present invention, when assembling the paper cover 41, the elastic ribs 31 should be pushed initially to swing a certain angle then the locking hooks and wing blocks of the paper cover 41 are allowed to enter into the mounting holes. Thereby, the elastic ribs of the present invention are different from the capturing members of Lin in structural design.

As shown in figure 5 of the patent 285, when the paper cover 1 is moving upward, the capturing members 7 can prevent disengagement of the horizontal axial bodies 5 from the scanner. And when the paper cover 41 of the present invention is moving upward, the catch plates 17,18 also

can provide the same function as the horizontal axial bodies 5 do. However, the paper cover 1 of the patent 285 can be easily removed from the housing when it is erected to be vertical to the surface of the scanner.

(col. 2 line 45-65) When the paper cover 41 of the present invention is  
5 erected on the housing, the catch block 33 of each of the elastic ribs is located above the shank 45 of the locking hook 44 so that the paper cover 41 cannot be removed from the scanner directly and prevented the paper cover 41 from being lost.

In addition, the capturing members 7 of the patent 285 are  
10 arranged in the recesses 6 in the front-and-rear direction thereof. Thus, each of the support arms 4 between the paper cover 1 and the horizontal axial bodies 5 is made of two opposite plate-like members, so that the capturing members 7 are allowed to pass through the space between the  
15 two opposite plate-like members so as to enable the paper cover to be opened. However, the plate-like support arms are easily broken if the user open the paper cover with an excessive great force.


The mounting holes of the present invention are differently designed that an open-type opening is defined in the connection of the distal end of the longitudinal portion of the respective mounting holes and  
20 the end surface of the housing of the scanner, and the locking hooks on the paper cover are block-shaped, when opening the paper cover, the locking hooks will move into the open-type openings so that the paper cover can be easily opened and the locking hooks will not be broken.

Obviously, the practicability of the present invention is better than that of Lin's patent 285.

Thereby, the applicant submits that the present invention is substantially distinguishable and patentable over the cited prior arts.

5           Courtesy, cooperation and skill of Examining Attorney Jason L. SHERRILL are acknowledged and appreciated.

Respectfully,

  
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